

## **APPENDIX 2 INFANT FORMULA RESUPPLY**

**PRIMARY AGENCY:** Washington State Department of Health

**SUPPORT AGENCIES:** Washington State Department of General Administration  
Washington State Department of Transportation  
American Red Cross

### **I. PURPOSE**

The emergency response mission of the Office of Women, Infants, and Children Services (WIC) is to work in conjunction with the Washington State Department of Health (DOH) to facilitate the delivery of public health and medical services/resources and to provide timely, accurate information to federal, state, and local agencies (i.e. WIC clinics), and the general public.

### **II. POLICY**

In a public health emergency or other declared emergency or disaster, the DOH Office of WIC Services will ensure that all infants in the affected jurisdiction(s) have access to infant formula. The DOH Office of Newborn Screening will continue to coordinate the provision of special metabolic infant formula to qualified clients during emergencies or disasters.

### **III. RESPONSIBILITIES**

The Washington State Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP) identifies and defines the responsibilities of the DOH during emergencies. The DOH will direct WIC in the duties needed to respond to the declared disaster.

### **IV. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS**

DOH will have an established Emergency Operations Center (EOC), which will be the focal point for coordinating agency disaster response and recovery operations. It is through the EOC that DOH/WIC shall receive guidance. The designated emergency or disaster coordinator for DOH may be reached by calling the EOC and requesting assistance.

### **V. PROCEDURES**

- A. An emergency requiring DOH/WIC response is triggered by a naturally occurring or human caused situation, capable of resulting in harm to life or property, where the need for resources to respond exceeds that available to the jurisdiction, either internally or through mutual aid agreements.

- B. An emergency triggers the DOH (to include the WIC Program) Emergency Management Plan when it is a public health emergency or the Governor declares a State of Emergency.
  - 1. PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY - An emergency involving public health concerns where the need for resources to respond exceeds the resources available to local and state government.
  - 2. STATE OF EMERGENCY - A Governor declared state of readiness triggered by an emergency of such magnitude that it requires resources exceeding the routine capabilities of state government.

## VI. RESPONSIBILITIES

### A. Washington State Department of General Administration

All food provided in the shelters are generally purchased by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and distributed by the Washington State Department of General Administration (GA), Division of Commodity Redistribution (DCR). The DCR has stated that if large quantities of infant formula were needed to respond to a major disaster, the DCR would rely upon the Office of WIC Services to assist in obtaining the formula.

### B. Washington State Department of Transportation

- 1. If a major disaster left the highways impassable and shipments of infant formula were unable to be transported to critical or remote areas, the DCR has facilities, which would allow for airdrops. GA/DCR recommends that consideration should be made to have mass quantities of infant formula be flown into McChord Air Force Base, Tacoma, Washington. From there the formula would be transported to the DCR site in Auburn, Washington, and then transported into locations designated as feeding sites.
- 2. In most cases, transportation of food and other materials into impassable areas would be provided by the Washington State Department of Transportation.

### C. American Red Cross

- 1. Shall respond to emergency relief efforts by providing food, shelter, care, and other forms of assistance. Once a need is identified for the Red Cross to provide assistance during an emergency, the public shall be given notice through such channels as print media and public service announcements by radio and television.
- 2. All Red Cross shelters are staffed with a registered nurse or someone designated to assess the medical needs of individuals coming into the shelter.

3. While the Red Cross does not always have a nutritionist on site in each shelter, it does plan their meals to ensure that nutritious meals are served.
4. The Red Cross does not stockpile infant formula.
5. A list of Washington Red Cross Units is located at the state EOC.